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C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 000610

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR AF AND IO

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/18/2014

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [MARR](#) [PINS](#) [EAID](#) [SL](#) [IT](#) [KWCI](#) [UNSC](#)

SUBJECT: GOI PLANS TO PROVIDE LIMITED FUNDS FOR SIERRA
LEONE COURT

REF: A. STATE 33396

[B](#). STATE 23826

CLASSIFIED BY: ACTING POL M/C G. ROBBINS FOR REASONS 1.5 (B) AND (D)

[1](#). (C) SEBASTIANO FULCI, MFA WEST AFRICA OFFICE DIRECTOR INFORMED POST THAT ITALY PLANS TO PROVIDE APPROXIMATELY 150,000 EURO FROM ITS PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS BUDGET FOR THE SIERRA LEONE SPECIAL COURT. ITALY PROVIDED 180,000 EURO IN 2001 AND 260,000 EURO AT THE END OF 2003.

[2](#). (C) FULCI EXPLAINED THAT ITALY'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COURT ARE DRAWN FROM ITS PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS BUDGET RATHER THAN ITS DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE BUDGET. GIVEN ITALY'S CONTINUED DEPLOYMENT IN IRAQ AND IMMINENT REDEPLOYMENT IN AFGHANISTAN, RESOURCES FOR OTHER DESERVING INITIATIVES ARE, UNFORTUNATELY, EXTREMELY LIMITED. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT ITALY MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE MORE FUNDS AT THE END OF 2004 AND ALSO MENTIONED THAT THERE IS A REMOTE POSSIBILITY THAT THE EU MAY PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE COURT BUT THAT NO DECISION HAS YET BEEN MADE REGARDING EU FUNDING.

[3](#). (C) CHARGE PLANS TO REINFORCE OUR POINTS IN A MEETING WITH MFA U/S BONIVER ON FRIDAY. POST WILL UPDATE AS APPROPRIATE.
SEMBLER

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